

Sinclair
Broadcasting's
decision to force
their stations to
air an anti-Kerry
documentary shortly
before the election
is a clear example
of the dangers of
media consolidation.

Since Sinclair uses
the public airwaves
free of charge, it
is obligated by law
to serve the public
interest. The
economic clout of
large companies
means, more and
more, that the
public interest is
unlikely to be
served. Instead,
what is aired serves
economic purposes;
it is often
completely unrelated
to the needs of the
community.

Sinclair's actions
show why we need to
strengthen media
ownership rules, not
weaken them. They
show why the license
renewal process
needs to involve
more than a returned
postcard.

Thank you.,

Bonnie Melchior